

SECURE DATA AUTHENTICATION APPARATUS**ABSTRACT**

A secure data authentication apparatus for authenticating the source of a software file for use on a computer system having a secure processing device. The secure data authentication apparatus further authenticating an owner of the software file and authenticates that the owner of the software file is the owner of the computer system that the software file is being installed on. The software file comprising a first source signature and a unique owner signature. The secure processing device generating a second source signature and a second owner signature, wherein if the first and second source signatures match and first and second owner signatures match, the computer system operates accepts the software file as being authenticated for the owners use and from the source represented by the first source signature.